

Remarks

Allowance of the application is respectfully requested in view of the Amendments submitted herewith.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowance of claims 2, 3, 20, 21 and 37, as well as the indication of allowability of claims 4, 5, 8-18, 22, 23 and 26-36 if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this amendment, applicants are taking the allowable subject matter indicated in the final Office Action.

Specifically, rejected independent claims 1 & 19 are canceled, with certain dependent claims at issue being made dependent on allowable claims 2 & 20. Specifically, claims 6-8 & 14 are amended to depend from allowed claim 2, while dependent claims 24-26 & 32 are amended to depend from allowed claim 20. Further, allowable dependent claims 4 & 22 are each rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Thus claims 4 & 5, as well as claims 22 & 23 are also believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 10 & 28 are canceled herein as being duplicative of the respective independent claims 2 & 20. Finally, rejected claim 38 is amended to recite the allowed subject matter of claims 2 & 20, i.e., that the quiescing comprising quiescing control messages within the routing network prior to the reconfiguring. In view of this amendment, claims 38-41 are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

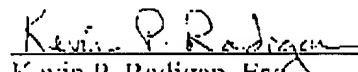
No new matter is added to the application by any amendment presented. These amendments are responsive to the Notice of allowed and allowable claims contained in the final Office Action, and are made without prejudice to the subject matter of the canceled claims. Entrance of this amendment and allowance of the application are therefore respectfully requested.

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Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this application, applicants' attorney is available by telephone at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,


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